



SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

for

1949

COLONEL W. H. CRICHTON, C.I.E., I.M.S. (Ret.)

M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Lond.)

Medical Officer of Health



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* Members of Health Committee

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

Colonel W. H. Crichton, C.I.E., I.M.S., (RET.), M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. Alexander Leslie, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. A. H. Hayes, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Rodent Operator :

Mr. W. G. Chamberlain

Chief Clerk :

Mr. O. A. Kent

Clerks :

Miss G. Evans

Mrs. P. Atkins

Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council

HEALTH OFFICES,
JOHNSON HOUSE,
BURLEY ROAD,
SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

July, 1950.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Third Annual Report on the state of the public health in the District during the Year 1949.

The Report this year has been arranged in nine sections as it was considered that Vital Statistics deserved a section to themselves. The report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Leslie, has been incorporated in this Report (in Sections V to IX).

The outstanding problem in the field of public health remains that of housing. The seriousness of the problem is aggravated by the fact that as far as one can see at present there is no hope of solution in sight. Progress in housing must be assessed, not solely by the sum total of the houses built, but in relation to (a) the effect on the demand for housing ; (b) the rate at which houses unfit for human habitation can be demolished and their occupants re-housed in suitable houses ; (c) the availability of houses for the people at a rate which they can comfortably afford ; and (d) the degree of human wastage, physical and moral which can be attributed to bad housing conditions.

With regard to the first point it will be noted that whereas at the end of 1948 there were 681 applicants on the "live" list, at the end of 1949, in spite of every effort by the Council, and in spite of 59 new houses being built and 78 families re-housed, the "live" list, far from shrinking, has increased to 709. Obviously the supply is not even keeping pace with the demand, and some other procedure or method has to be devised to produce houses in larger numbers at a cost which is acceptable to those who need them. On this point, your attention is invited to the statement prepared by the Housing Officer (page 32) which shows that the rents charged to-day are beyond the economic means of no less than 86% of the applicants, and indeed several requests have been received from present tenants of Council houses to be re-housed in cheaper houses.

In the field of clearing houses which are unfit for human habitation it has only been possible to touch the fringe of the problem, though its full extent will not be known until a complete survey has been carried out. During the year under review seven official representations for demolition were made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, but it has not been possible to proceed with other properties known to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense owing to the difficulties entailed in the rehousing of the occupants.

No exact figure can be given of human wastage, illness, unhappiness and delinquency which can be fairly attributed to housing conditions, but the lowered Birth Rate (page 8) and the increased Infant Mortality Rate (page 9) may be taken to be of some indication of the conditions which prevail. I hope that before long more realistic and more energetic means will be devised by Government to enable the Council to provide a greater measure of relief for this very distressing problem.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude and appreciation to the Staff of the Health Department for their unfailing loyalty and excellent work, to the Chief Officers of the Council for their co-operation and assistance, and to the Council for their support and consideration.

I remain your obedient servant,

W. H. CRICHTON,

Medical Officer of Health

Section I

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

1. CLIMATOLOGY

The Winter, both at the beginning of the year and at the end, was mild, while the Summer was exceptionally hot and dry. Indeed there was a drought which lasted several weeks, followed in September and October by a downpour of rain totalling 8.67 inches. Temperature and rainfall readings are shown in Appendix 1.

2. AREA IN ACRES

Land and inland water	...	...	...	...	4,935
No change.					

3. POPULATION

The estimated mid-year population for 1949 is given as 22,150, **a decrease of 90** over that of the preceding year. It is difficult to understand how this figure is arrived at, particularly so as the natural increase in the population, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, is 103 or 30.2%.

4. NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1949 was 6,431, an increase of 92 on the preceding year.

5. RATEABLE VALUE

The rateable value has risen to £131,540, as compared with £131,340 15s. in 1948.

6. SUM REPRESENTING PENNY RATE

The sum representing the penny rate is £523 7s. 8d., as compared with £447 3s. 9d. in 1948.

Section II

VITAL STATISTICS

1. BIRTHS

The number of births shows a small decline on that of the preceding year, 374 as against 397. The details are as follows :—

		Males	Females	Totals
(a) Live Births				
Legitimate	...	178 (204)	177 (181)	355 (385)
Illegitimate	...	11 (4)	8 (8)	19 (12)
Totals		189 (208)*	185 (189)*	374 (397)*

The percentage of illegitimate births has risen to 5.3% as compared with 3.1%.

(b) Birth Rate

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population has fallen again to 16.8 from 17.8 in 1948, and 24.4 in 1947. This fall is general throughout the country, the birth rate for England and Wales being 16.7 per thousand. It reflects a return to more normal conditions and undoubtedly, in some measure, a growing reluctance on the part of many married couples to increase their responsibilities in the face of difficult housing conditions.

(c) Still Births

The same number of still-births occurred in 1949 as in the preceding year—7. The percentage of still-births to live births is only slightly affected, 1.8 as against 1.7. It is noteworthy that all the seven still-births were legitimate.

2. DEATHS

(a) Forty-three more people died in 1949 than in the preceding year, 271 as against 228. Of these 152 were males and 119 females, whereas in 1948 the proportion of males to females was much higher, 135 to 93. The system in force does not permit an accurate record to be made of the ages at death, but according to the monthly records maintained at this office, the average age at death seldom varied from about 63 for males and 70 for females.

(b) **The Death Rate** per thousand of the estimated population was 12.2 as compared with 10.2 in the preceding year and 11.5 in 1947. The rate for England and Wales for the same period was lower than the rate for the District—11.7 per thousand.

(c) **The Causes of Death** are set out in Table I below as received from the Registrar General.

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

TABLE I

Disease	Males	Females
Whooping Cough	— (2)	— (—)
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	6 (7)	4 (1)
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1 (1)	1 (—)
Syphilitic Disease	— (1)	— (—)
Influenza	1 (1)	2 (—)
Cancer of buc ; cav : and Oesoph (M)	1 (1)	— (—)
Cancer of buc : cav : and Uterus (F)	— (—)	2 (4)
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4 (6)	5 (2)
Cancer of Breast	— (—)	2 (5)
Cancer of all other Sites	14 (9)	4 (11)
Diabetes	1 (2)	2 (1)
Intracranial vascular lesions	9 (13)	16 (13)
Heart disease	52 (52)	49 (33)
Other diseases of circulatory system	8 (5)	3 (5)
Bronchitis	6 (4)	2 (4)
Pneumonia	9 (6)	5 (3)
Other respiratory diseases	2 (4)	— (1)
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3 (3)	2 (—)
Diarrhoea, under 2 years	1 (—)	1 (—)
Appendicitis	1 (—)	— (—)
Other digestive diseases	1 (4)	3 (2)
Nephritis	5 (6)	2 (3)
Premature birth	2 (—)	— (1)
Congenital malformation }	6 (2)	4 (1)
Birth injury		
Infant diseases	3 (—)	— (—)
Suicide	3 (—)	2 (—)
Road traffic accidents	3 (2)	2 (—)
Other violent causes	10 (4)	6 (3)
All other causes		
TOTALS ...	152 (135)*	119 (93)*

(d) Comment

The proportion of deaths from Tuberculosis has risen slightly to 4.4% as compared with 3.9 % in 1948 and 3.1% in 1947. On the other hand the percentage dying from cancer has declined to 11.4% from 16.6% and, for the fifth year in succession, no maternal death from puerperal causes has occurred.

3. INFANT MORTALITY

(a) Seven more babies under one year of age died in 1949 than in the preceding year, 15 as compared with 8 deaths, raising the **Infant Mortality Rate to 37.4 per thousand** live births as compared with 22 per thousand in 1948 and 32 per thousand in 1947. This is a most unpalatable fact, particularly so as the majority of the deaths were due to causes which, with care, knowledge and good environment, are ordinarily preventable, i.e., Acute Gastro enteritis and

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

Broncho pneumonia. The others died of prematurity (2) and congenital malformations (5).

(b) Although, in comparatively small communities, the infant mortality rate is bound to show fluctuations from year to year, a marked increase such as this cannot be so lightly explained, and indeed indicates the great need which there is for more education in child management and in environmental hygiene, i.e., an extension of child welfare services and better housing.

(c) The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales for the same period was appreciably lower—32 per thousand.

4. NATURAL INCREASES IN POPULATION

As already stated (vide "Population") the natural increase of the population, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, was 103 or 27.5% as compared with 42.5% in 1948 and 53.3% in 1947—a definite downward trend, but nevertheless an increase.

Section III

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

THEIR PREVALENCE AND CONTROL

1. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—INCIDENCE

(a) The number and character of infectious diseases notified during the year is shown in the following table :—

TABLE II

Disease	No. of Cases	Admissions to Hospital or Sanatorium	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	49 (18)	30 (17)	— (—)
Puerperal Pyrexia	— (1)	— (1)	— (—)
Cerebro Spinal Fever	— (1)	— (1)	— (—)
Measles	222 (438)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough	63 (188)	1 (3)	— (2)
Pneumonia	6 (3)	— (—)	1 (—)
Erysipelas	7 (3)	3 (1)	— (—)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (—)
Dysentery	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Food Poisoning (Suspected)	2 (15)	1 (—)	— (—)
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	20 (19)	7 (9)	4 (4)
Non-Pulmonary	3 (6)	2 (3)	— (1)
TOTALS	374 (692)*	45 (35)*	5 (7)*

(b) The distribution by age group of the cases notified is shown in Table III, thus :—

TABLE III
Age Groups of Cases Notified

	Under 1 Year	1 - 3	3 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 60	60 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	2	12	28	7	—	—	—	—	—	49
Measles	6	46	37	128	3	1	1	—	—	—	222
Whooping Cough	11	21	16	11	2	1	1	—	—	—	63
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	6
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Tuberculosis :—											
Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	1	2	6	6	2	2	20
Non-Pulmonary	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3
TOTALS	19	70	65	169	14	5	11	6	5	10	374

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

2. COMMENT

(i) The considerable decrease in the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year as compared with the preceding year is accounted for by the decline in the incidence of measles and of whooping cough, although in neighbouring Districts the incidence of measles was high.

(ii) On the other hand there was a marked increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, fortunately of very mild character. Medical practitioners frequently experienced difficulty in deciding whether a case was one of severe tonsillitis or pharyngitis with mild constitutional symptoms, or whether it was notifiable as a case of Scarlet Fever. Many of the cases were nursed at home and, where circumstances permitted, this arrangement was preferred as the resources of the Infectious Diseases Hospital were strained to their utmost on occasion.

(iii) The diagnosis of two suspected cases of food poisoning could not be definitely established bacteriologically, but clinically, both were suggestive of food poisoning. One case, that of an old lady, proved fatal, but as no post-mortem examination was carried out, the diagnosis could not be confirmed.

(iv) The total number of new cases of Tuberculosis—pulmonary and non-pulmonary — notified during the year was slightly lower than that of the preceding year. It is significant that the proportion of cases admitted to Sanatoria has dropped from 48% in 1948 to 34.7% in 1949. The age group distribution of the pulmonary cases was more widespread than it was in the preceding year when the majority of the cases (nearly 40%) occurred in the 15-25 age group. In 1949 the main incidence has shifted to the two higher age groups, 25-35 and 35-45 (30% each). The balance of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register at the end of the year displays an upward trend—139 as compared with 136 at the end of 1948 and 119 in 1947.

Better liaison is being maintained with individual cases and the Chest Physician through the District T.B. Care Committee of which I am now Chairman. The Committee has been very active throughout the year and has been instrumental in providing very much needed material assistance to a large number of cases during their confinement at home before or after going to a Sanatorium. Public support for the work of the Committee has been most encouraging.

The summary of the Tuberculosis Register of the year is as follows :—

TABLE IV.
Summary of Tuberculosis Register

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
On Register on 1st Jan. 1949 ...	105	31	136
Notified as "new" cases ...	20	3	23
Transferred to District ...	1	1	2
Restored to Register	3	—	3
TOTALS ...	129	35	164
Died	10	3	13
Recovered	3	2	5
Removed from District ...	6	1	7
Diagnosis changed	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	19	6	25
Balance remaining on 31st Dec.. 1949	110	29	139

(v) The solitary case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was treated as an out-patient at the Maidstone Ophthalmic Hospital and then left to the care of the Medical Practitioner. Recovery was complete.

(vi) The case of Whooping Cough admitted to Hospital was complicated by Broncho-Pneumonia. It is a matter for satisfaction that Hospital accommodation was made available for this type of case. The public demand for immunisation against Whooping Cough appears to be still growing and it is hoped that it will soon be made available at Child Welfare Clinics to supplement the work carried out by private Practitioners.

(vii) No bacteriological confirmation was obtained in the case of dysentery notified. The Clinical signs presented features consistent with an attack of dysentery of the Sonn  type and may have been a case of food poisoning. As far as is known, this was a solitary case.

3. DISINFECTION

A van for the conveyance of infected articles to the Isolation Hospital at Keycol for disinfection has been sanctioned by the Council, but has not been delivered yet. In addition, difficulty is experienced because of the limited time the disinfector is in operation at the Hospital (Mondays and Tuesdays). This is probably an economic and practicable arrangement for the hospital, but it is inadequate to meet the needs of outside cases. Resort has therefore to be had to methods of disinfection in the home on occasion.

4. VENEREAL DISEASES

The only information available to indicate the incidence of Venereal Disease in the District is the number of attendances at the V.D. Clinics by patients from the District which have been very kindly supplied to me by the County Venereologist. These are as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Syphilis	2	2	4
Gonorrhœa	2	—	2
Non-Venereal (Genital Lesions)	6	5	11
Totals ...	10	7	17

The above refer to new cases during the year. The total number of attendances was 395. Figures for the preceding year were 19 new cases and 428 attendances. If these figures are accepted as straws in the wind, they suggest that there is no serious increase in the incidence of venereal disease.

5. VACCINATIONS AND IMMUNISATIONS

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation

From the figures very kindly supplied to me by the County Medical Officer, it would appear that 2,204 out of 5,108 or 43% of the children under the age of 15 years on December, 1949, were protected against Diphtheria by immunisation, primary or reinforcing. The percentage protected last year was reported as 95% and this followed the intensive campaign carried out in that year. This latter figure may not have been accurate but at least it was very considerably higher than that shown this year. During the year under review 417 primary inoculations and 843 reinforcing inoculations were carried out.

(b) Vaccination against Smallpox

By courtesy of the County Medical Officer, I am able to report that 148 primary vaccinations and 14 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year. Considering that the number of births in 1948 was 397 the number of babies protected does not appear to be very high. It is hoped that the lesson of the recent Glasgow epidemic will be taken to heart by the public and that they will not wait for a case of smallpox to occur in their midst before they seek protection by vaccination, by which time it may be too late.

Section IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(a) Staff

There have been no changes in the Staff of the Public Health Department during the year under review. A recommendation to the effect that, with the growing importance of housing and the need for an up-to-date review or survey of the situation, the appointment of an Additional Sanitary Inspector was eminently desirable, was not accepted by the Council. In my view this matter will require further consideration in the near future more especially so as the Chief Sanitary Inspector's time is taken up to a great extent with his duties of Housing Officer to the Council. Although I feel that, in principle, it is not correct for a Chief Sanitary Inspector to be encumbered with this heavy and irksome responsibility, the advantage of having an officer who is intimately acquainted with the environmental circumstances of the people as the officer to advise the Council on the selection of tenants for Council houses is obvious. Whatever decision is arrived at in future on the appointment of a separate Housing Officer, it is hoped that the closest possible liaison with the Health Department in this matter will be ensured.

(b) Since 1st July, 1949, a rearrangement of the duties of the Medical Officer of Health has been agreed to at the request of the County Council whereby his responsibilities have been extended to include the three County Districts on the Isle of Sheppey at the expense of Child Welfare and School Health duties hitherto carried out by him on behalf of the County Council. These divided responsibilities imply a greater reliance than ever on the excellent work carried out by the Chief Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Leslie) and the Additional Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Hayes).

(c) Offices

The much hoped for structural alterations in Johnson House had a set-back with the coming of the National Health Service Act because of a feeling of divided responsibility. The need for improvement in the accommodation for the many Clinics still held at Johnson House has been acknowledged by the County Council, but as this Authority is in the position of a tenant, the suggested improvements were presumably left to the District Council. The District Council, on the other hand, not being directly concerned with the Clinics, has presumably left the matter to the County

Council. Whatever the ultimate location of the Clinics may be, there is urgent need for improvement in the accommodation provided for the clerical staff and records of the Health Department and for the Inspectors, particularly the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and it is hoped that the Council will sanction the taking of appropriate measures in the near future.

2. PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

(a) These are no longer the responsibility of the District Council and, regrettably, there is little or no liaison between the environmental services provided by the District Council and the personal health services provided by the County Council as Health Authority. I cannot help feeling that it was never the intention that this situation should arise.

(b) The County Medical Officer has been good enough to provide me with a copy of the Annual Report on the School Health Services in the District from which the following are interesting extracts :—

(i) Number of children inspected			
(Periodic inspections)	...	...	1,009 (1,286)*
(ii) Number found requiring treatment	.		171
(iii) Percentage	...	...	16.9%
(iv) Frequency of main defects found :—			
Orthopædic defects	...	...	42.8% (18%)*
Eyes	...	...	18.8% (13%)
Nose and Throat	...	...	17.2% (26.7%)
Developmental (including hernia)			5.4% (—)
Ears	...	...	2.5% (7.7%)

It will be noted that nose and throat conditions which have for many years held the first place, have fallen to fourth place in order of frequency, and that orthopædic defects have risen sharply from 18% to 42.8% and taken the lead. The commonest defect in the list is flat foot, a disquieting feature which is no doubt related to bad or indifferent shoe fittings. The next commonest defect is bad posture, a serious defect in children and one fraught with much permanent impairment of health unless promptly and properly attended to.

(c) The classification of children inspected in accordance with their general condition is as follows :—

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

	Number Inspected	A (Good)	B (Fair)	C (Poor)
Entrants	306	45.5% (58.3%)	52.9% (36.3%)	1.6% (5.4%)*
Second Age Group	355	36.6% (78.3%)	59.7% (20.9%)	3.7% (0.8%)
Third Age Group	257	37.7% (58.0%)	58.4% (35.0%)	3.9% (7.0%)
Other periodic Inspections ...	91	44.0% (28.8%)	54.9% (60.9%)	1.1% (10.3%)
	<u>1,009</u>	<u>40.2% (57.2%)</u>	<u>56.9% (37.3%)</u>	<u>2.9% (5.5%)</u>

The trend appears to be towards the middle grade at the expense of the best grade, but with an improvement in the lowest grade. This conforms with the trend apparent in the preceding year's findings.

(d) In the minor ailment Clinics, the majority of conditions treated were minor injuries (57.3%), followed by skin conditions (22%), ear conditions (12.7%) and eye diseases (8%).

(e) Dental inspections and treatment figures are as follows :—

Number inspected by Dental Officers	1,087	(625)*
Number found requiring treatment.	671	(269)
Percentage	61.7%	(43%)
Number actually treated	453	(399)
Percentage	67.5%	(63.8%)

Evidently the advent of the National Health Service has not disturbed the efficiency of the School Dental Services in the District. The number of children requiring treatment and the number actually treated are both higher than those in the preceding year.

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

Section V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

(a) The water supply for the Urban District is derived from two sources, i.e., the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District water undertaking and the Mid-Kent Water Company. The supply has been adequate both in quantity and quality. 30 samples were submitted for examination. All were satisfactory.

(b) The majority of houses have a piped supply within their premises. A number of houses continue to be served by means of common standpipes, but gradually these are being converted to an indoor system of supply. Ten houses have been improved in this manner during the year. There are still five houses on the periphery of the town which are served by well water, an unsatisfactory arrangement on which it has been found impossible to improve owing to the continued shortage of piping. The tenants meanwhile continue to boil water used for drinking.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

(a) There have been no important alterations to the sewerage system during the year.

(b) CESSPOOLS.—Seven cesspools were abolished during the year and the premises connected to the sewer. The precise number of cesspools in use is not known.

(c) PAIL CLOSETS.—Two were abolished during the year. The number remaining in the district is small.

(d) RODENT CONTROL.—The sewerage system was subjected to a systematic treatment against rat infestation during the year with satisfactory results (vide Sect. VI s.s. 3).

3. SCAVENGING

(a) Refuse collection and disposal is administered by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Disposal is by means of tipping. The face of the tip is treated regularly with Gammexane spray during the summer season to reduce fly breeding.

(b) Difficulty has been experienced due to the indiscriminate dumping by residents of all types of material including old beds, mattresses, baths, prams, etc., etc. In an effort to combat this problem the Council resolved to authorise the Council's Refuse Collectors to remove awkward articles after prior notice had been given.

It is to be regretted that the public do not seem to have availed themselves of this service, but continue to prefer to disfigure the appearance of the town and increase the risk to public health by indiscriminate and illicit dumping.

4. SCHOOL SANITATION

The sanitary accommodation provided is generally maintained in a satisfactory condition. The long overdue improvements to the sanitary arrangements at the Holy Trinity School have now been completed.

5. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The public conveniences in the town are maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Complaints have been received of the inadequacy of the facilities provided for ladies during the late night and early morning. It is hoped that it will be found possible to meet this requirement.

6. PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Whilst the Swimming Baths continue to be enjoyed by large numbers of bathers, there is still room for improvement in the following respects :—

- (a) an increase in the number of shower baths provided and insistence on their use before bathing ; and
- (b) the provision of trough foot baths and insistence on their use before bathing.

7. SERVICE OF NOTICES REQUIRING THE EXECUTION OF WORKS OR THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

- (a) 673 informal notices served (693)*
- (b) 58 statutory notices served (65)
- (c) 692 informal notices complied with (605)
- (d) 76 statutory notices complied with (55)

8. VISITS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS

The number and type of visits paid by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year is shown in App. B.

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

SECTION VI

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. MILK SUPPLY

(a) On the 1st October, 1949, the powers and duties of the Council were affected by the operation of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 ; the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ; the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949. The main effect of these Regulations is that the Council are no longer responsible for the registration and supervision of milk production nor for the issue of pasteurising licences or the supervision of pasteurising plants, but remain as registering authority for milk distributors in the District.

(b) The following are the details of registrations :—

(i) Registered milk distributors	...	...	24
(ii) Distributors licensed to deal in pasteurised milk	...	...	8
(iii) Distributors licensed to sell sterilised milk			11
(iv) Supplementary licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	4

(c) EXAMINATION OF MILK SUPPLIES

(i) 52 samples of Milk were submitted for bacteriological or other prescribed examination at the County Laboratory, Maidstone. The following table shows details of the results obtained :—

TABLE V.

Designation	No. of Samples	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Ordinary Milk	5	4	1
Pasteurised and Heat-treated Milks	41	32	9
Tuberculin Tested Milk	6	5	1
TOTAL ...	52	41	11

(ii) The 9 samples of Pasteurised milk and the sample of Tuberculin Tested Milk reported upon adversely, all failed in the Methylene Blue Test. It should, however, be noted that these

samples were submitted during the hot weather and that it has now been recognised that if the temperature of the milk rises above 65° F, the test is invalid.

(iii) Two samples of milk were submitted for Biological Examination. The Pathologist's report indicated that there was no evidence of Tuberculosis.

(e) EXAMINATION OF WASHED MILK BOTTLES

Six washed milk bottles derived from two dairies were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. The results obtained were unsatisfactory. In one case, as a result, improved cleansing equipment has been purchased and is now in use. In the other case the unsatisfactory results were due to bad technique now improved as a result of advice from the Department.

2. MEAT

(i) 349 visits were paid to the Ministry of Food Slaughter-house, East Street, Sittingbourne, for the purpose of meat inspection.

(ii) The agreed maximum daily kill, 10 beasts, 50 smalls (sheep, calves and pigs) has continued in operation during the year. By arrangement with the Ministry of Food the maximum kill is to be more strictly adhered to in the future.

(iii) The total number of animals slaughtered during the year (6,495) compares with the total slaughtered in 1948 (6,507).

(iv) The unsatisfactory accommodation at present in use as a slaughter-house was again brought to the notice of the Council in June, 1949. As a result, a Conference between the Council, the Ministry of Food and a representative of the Ministry of Health was held in London on 24th November, 1949. The present position was examined and some minor improvements were agreed upon. On the question of the Council constructing a modern abattoir for the district, it appeared that, owing (a) to the lack of a future slaughtering policy, (b) the obscure political situation obtaining at the time, and (c) the necessity for the reduction of capital expenditure in accordance with the national economic policy, it was not possible to proceed with this project at the time. The position remains unsatisfactory because the existing premises are incapable of any substantial improvement to secure the slaughtering of animals and their inspection under favourable and hygienic conditions. The provision of a modern abattoir to serve the District is a matter of first-class importance and urgency in the interests of the public health.

(v) Table VI shows the details of the animals slaughtered together with the numbers affected with disease. The percentage of animals found affected with Tuberculosis or disease other than Tuberculosis shows very little change from that of previous years.

TABLE VI

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed	1312	389	175	4323	296	6495
Number Inspected	1312	389	175	4323	296	6495
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses con- demned	4	3	—	31	3	41
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	586	217	2	204	26	1035
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis ...	44.9	56.5	1.1	5.4	9.7	16.5 (16.0)*
Tuberculosis Only						
Whole carcasses con- demned	11	13	1	—	—	25
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	145	122	1	—	4	272
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	11.8	34.7	0.5	—	1.3	4.5 (4.8)*

(vi) The details of foodstuffs of all types condemned during the year are shown in Appendix "A."

4. SHELLFISH

(i) No case of illness attributable to shellfish was notified during the year. The Department continually keeps the position under observation. The public are reminded that the purchase of shellfish from any dealers other than reputable and well established firms, involves serious risks to themselves.

5. FISH FRYING

(i) 8 Fish frying establishments are in operation in the area. 21 visits of inspection were made during the year. The shops continue to be maintained in a clean and hygienic manner and the closest co-operation exists between the Trade and the Department.

6. ICE CREAM

(i) (a) The number of premises registered for the manufacture, storage or sale of ice cream are :—

FOOTNOTE—*Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

Sale and storage of ice cream	...	...	58 (40)*
Storage of ice cream	...	...	2 (1)
Manufacture of ice cream	...	...	12 (12)

(b) There has been a substantial increase in the number of applicants requesting registration for the purpose of sale of ice cream. In most cases every effort is made to ensure that pre-packed ice cream only is sold. It appears to be necessary that legal provision should be made enabling a local authority to insist on this measure in appropriate cases.

(ii) 58 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination by the Provisional Modified Methylene Blue Reductase Test, with the following results :—

			1949	1948
Grade I	...	...	15 (25.8%)	12 (17.6%)
Grade II	...	...	19 (32.7%)	16 (23.5%)
Grade III	...	...	10 (17.2%)	16 (14.7%)
Grade IV	...	...	14 (24.1%)	30 (44.0%)

These results show an improvement as compared with the 1948 figures. Thus, 58.5% of the samples attained Grades I and II compared with 41.1% in 1948, while only 24.1% of the samples were returned in the lowest grade as compared with 44.0% in 1948. There is, however, still room for improvement and the results indicate that there is need for constant skilled supervision and for the maintenance of scrupulous, and indeed fastidious, standards of hygiene among all concerned in the manufacture and sale of ice cream.

7. BAKEHOUSES

(i) 8 bakehouses are registered and in operation in the area.

(ii) During the year it was noted that in some cases due attention was not being paid to the cleanliness of delivery vans. It is useless to maintain good standards of hygiene through the various stages of manufacture of a commodity and then to place the finished article in a dirty vehicle. In the majority of cases a very high standard of cleanliness is observed and there is no difficulty in the way of maintaining this standard other than the realisation of the

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

need for their maintenance which can only be achieved through health education.

8. RESTAURANT KITCHENS

(i) The number of Restaurant Kitchens (including works canteens) in the area is 25.

(ii) Every opportunity has been taken to further health education on visits of inspection. It is to be regretted, however, that there is still a long way to go before both management and employee have a full appreciation of the potential risks involved and the methods necessary to eliminate them as far as is humanly possible. The Department is always willing to impart advice on modern methods and technique and assist in the education of the worker in the trade by means of talks and lectures or demonstrations.

9. PUBLIC HOUSES

(i) Improvements in the sanitation of public houses are being carried out by the Breweries concerned as materials and opportunity permit.

(ii) The use of special types of detergent for the purposes of cleansing and sterilising glasses continues in a large number of public houses.

10. FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

(i) 21 premises are registered for the manufacture of sausage and preserved foods. Frequent inspections have been made during the year. The standard of hygiene is satisfactory.

11. DETAIL OF INSPECTIONS

Shown in Appendix "B."

12. SAMPLES TAKEN BY THE FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY

By courtesy of the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, the following detail of samples of food taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in Sittingbourne and Milton are included :—

Article	No. of Samples
Apple Conserve	1
Aspirin	2
Baking Powder	1
Balsam of Aniseed	1
Bitter Beer	1
Black Currant Cordial	1
Butter	1
Candied Peel	1
Cascara Sagrada	1
Celery Salt	1
Cherry Cake	1
Choc-Snacks	1
Chop Sauce	1
Christmas Pudding	2
Cough Linctus	1
Damson Jam	1
Date Pudding	1
Epsom Salt Tablets	1
Essence of Cinnamon and Quinine	1
Fish Paste	2
Fruit Cake	1
Glycerine, Lemon and Ipecacuana Mixture	1
Golden Plum Pudding	1
Ground Ginger	1
Health and Liver Salts	1
Honey, Glycerine and Lemon Mixture	1
Honey Lumps	1
Iodine	1
Lard	1
Lemonade Crystals	1
Liquid Paraffin	1
Mango Chutney	1
Mayonnaise	1
Mild Beer	1
Milk	29
Nerve Tonic Tablets	1
Olive Oil	1
Orange Wine	1
Phosphur Nerve Tonic	1
Poloney	1
Pure Oil of Eucalyptus	1
Rhubarb in Syrup	1
Sal Volatile	1
Semolina	1
Sieved Apple with Sugar	1
Sweet Pickle	2
Tomato Ketchup	1
Tomato Sauce	1
Whisky	3
Zinc and Castor Oil Cream	1
TOTAL ...	84

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following :—

Sal Volatile. Inferior. Slightly deficient in free ammonia and alcohol.

The manufacturers were notified of the deficiency which was probably due to storage conditions

Milk.	Inferior. Fat 2.8%, Solids not Fat 8.75% 6.7% deficient in Fat.
-------	--

Milk.	Inferior. Fat 2.8%. Solids not Fat 8.9% 10% deficient in Fat.
-------	--

Milk.	Inferior. Fat 2.9%, Solids not Fat 8.6% 3.3% deficient in Fat.
-------	---

These three milk samples were all taken from the same producer. Further samples were taken and were found to be genuine. The deficiencies were probably due to improper mixing of the milk.

SECTION VII.

DISINFECTION, DISINFESTATION AND RODENT CONTROL

1. DISINFECTION

(i) 117 rooms at 89 premises were disinfected on account of infectious disease.

(ii) All library books found at premises where a case of notifiable disease has occurred are disinfected by formaldehyde before being returned to circulation.

(iii) The difficulties which are being experienced in connection with the disinfection of infected clothing and bedding at Keycol Hospital are referred to in Section III, para, 3.

2. DISINFESTATION

(i) The following tables indicate the work carried out during the year :—

(a) *Bed Bugs*

			Infestations	
			Premises	Rooms
Council Houses	...	...	2	4
Other Houses	...	...	29	56
			—	—
Totals	...		31	60
			—	—

(b) *Fleas*

Council Houses	...	...	—	—
Other Houses	...	...	2	7
			—	—
Totals	...		2	7
			—	—

(c) *Other Insect Pests*

(Ants, Beetles, Clover Bugs, Flies and Moths)

Council Houses	...	...	9	10
Other Houses	...	...	12	16
Other Premises	...	...	4	5
			—	—
Totals	...		25	31
			—	—

(ii) In addition 30 wasps nests were dealt with and 3 static water tanks and one pond were periodically oiled as an anti-mosquito measure.

(iii) The main insecticides used during the year have 5% D.D.T. in Kerosene and Gammexane.

(iv) In connection with fly infestations, which, during the year, were prevalent in marked degree, the Department on many occasions advised the public as to the most suitable methods to be employed in controlling infestation. Every opportunity has been taken to advise traders and others of the great benefits which accrue from fly-proofing buildings. There appears to be a growing realisation of the potential dangers from the menace of fly-borne disease and in a few cases fly-proofing of kitchens is to be carried out.

3. RODENT CONTROL

(i) The Council employ one part-time Rodent Operator.

(ii) The following table gives details of the work carried out during the year :—

TABLE VII

	Complaints of infestations Notified by Public	Additional infestations found on Survey	Complaints of infestations Ill-founded	Complete treatments	Treated by Occupier	Under or awaiting treatment	Estimated killed by Poisons	By Trapping	Visits made (including routine Survey)
Rats	62 (77)	41 (12)	5 (20)	92 (51)	— (—)	6 (9)	537 (800)	22 (88)	2,625 (2,581)*
Mice	73 (45)	3 (5)	— (—)	76 (48)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	55 (44)	*
Totals	135	44	5	168	—	6	537	77	2,625

(iii) During the year a rodent control treatment was carried out in the Council's Sewerage System with good results. The following table shows (a) details of the initial treatment and (b) details of the follow-up treatment.

TABLE VIII

	No. of Manholes	No. not Baited	No. Baited	C.	P.	Total Take	N.T.
Initial treatment ...	481	35	446	99	93	192	254
Follow-up treatment	295	18	277	3	20	23	254

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

SECTION VIII

HOUSING

1. RE-HOUSING

(i) During the year it was found possible to provide housing accommodation for 92 families, as follows :—

- (a) 5 families rehoused in existing temporary houses (3).
- (b) 4 families rehoused in pre-war Council houses (14).
- (c) 59 families rehoused in post-war Council houses (60).
- (d) 10 families rehoused in privately owned houses by arrangement with the owner's consent (13).

(ii) In addition temporary accommodation was provided for 14 families at Kemsley Hutments.

(iii) It is also known that 37 applicants found accommodation privately and 5 applicants were rehoused by other Authorities.

2. THE "LIVE" LIST AND THE ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

(i) The total "live" list at 31st December, 1949, numbered 709. In addition there were 156 applications, which, in accordance with the Council's resolution, could not be considered during the year. Thus, the grand total of all applications at 31st December, 1949, was 865.

(ii) An analysis of the 709 "live" applications on the housing list is as follows :—

(a) Applicants living and working outside Sittingbourne	...	...	59	(51)*
(b) Single Applicants	...	...	15	(3)
(c) Applicants who are tenants of houses within the Urban District	...	146		(129)
(d) Applicants who are tenants of houses outside the Urban District	...	48		
(e) Applicants who reside outside Sittingbourne but work within the Urban District	...	49		(70)
(f) Applicants residing in lodgings where families reside outside the Urban District	...	...	3	
(g) Applicants living in rooms as sub-tenants or lodgers within the Urban District	...	...	389	(417)
TOTAL			709	

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

(iii) The 709 applications were also analysed in terms of family units, as follows :—

Single Applicants	...	...	...	15	(3)*
Man and Wife	...	...	...	169	(204)
Man and Wife and 1 Child	...	...	...	278	(272)
Man and Wife and 2 Children	...	...	...	154	(125)
Man and Wife and 3 Children	...	...	...	46	(35)
Man and Wife and 4 Children	...	...	...	14	(17)
Man and Wife and 5 Children	...	...	...	21	(18)
Man and Wife and 6 Children	...	...	...	7	(4)
Man and Wife and 7 Children	...	...	...	2	(3)
Man and Wife and 8 Children	...	...	...	2	(-)
Man and Wife and 11 Children...	...	...	...	1	(-)

(iv) The main problem as indicated in the analysis quoted para. (vi) continues mainly to be one of providing housing accommodation for a large number of small family units. The number of families who could quite well be housed in two-bedroomed accommodation total 462 or 65.1% of the total “live” list. This latter percentage compares with similar surveys in March, 1947 and 1948 of 73.4%.

(v) In spite of the fact that the general problem is as stated above, the position of those applicants with 4 or more children cannot be lost sight of. From the analysis in para. (vi) these total 49 of the list. The serious consideration of the Council must be given to the erection of a number of larger type houses, particularly when it is known that all the 12 existing 4-bedroomed houses are fully occupied.

(vi) An evaluation of existing accommodation in the District is necessary to get the problem into proper perspective. Unfortunately with the available staff this is quite impossible. Nevertheless, it cannot be too strongly emphasised that in order to formulate a long-term housing policy this information is vitally necessary.

3. RENT AND THE FAMILY BUDGET

(i) The following table indicates the result of an analysis of family income, carried out on the 709 applicants on the “live” list :—

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

TABLE IX

DETAILS	Under £2	£2 to £2.10.0	£2.10.0 to £3	£3 to £3.10.0	£3.10.0 to £4	£4 to £4.10.0	£4.10.0 to £5	£5 to £6	£6 to £7	£7 to £8	£8 and over	Income not Stated	TOTALS
Single Man and Wife ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	4	-	1	1	15
Man, Wife and one Child ...	1	-	-	3	1	3	19	79	41	12	7	3	169
Man, Wife and two Children ...	2	1	2	-	-	5	27	115	82	25	15	4	278
Man, Wife and three Children ...	-	1	1	1	-	7	15	61	41	15	10	2	154
Man, Wife and four Children ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	16	16	3	4	1	46
Man, Wife and five Children ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	5	-	3	-	14
Man, Wife and six Children ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	6	1	4	2	21
Man, Wife and seven Children ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	3	-	-	7
Man, Wife and eight Children ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Man, Wife and eleven Children ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Man, Wife and eleven Children ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	4	2	4	4	1	15	71	293	197	61	44	13	709

(ii) If it is assumed that a reasonable proportion of the family's income to expend on rent is 1-6th and that the rent of a post-war house is 25/- inclusive, it will be noted that **591, or 86.1% of the applicants** (i.e. those earning less than £7 10s. per week) **cannot afford the prevailing rents**, without sacrifice of some essential commodity. The corresponding figure in the preceding year was 90%. It is becoming increasingly obvious, judging by the number of Council house tenants who are now finding the utmost difficulty in meeting the rising costs of living and who are applying for a transfer to cheaper rented houses, that the question of the necessarily high rentals attached to post-war houses is a most serious problem. Although the solution of the problem appears to be far from simple, nevertheless, the most energetic steps should be taken to reduce building costs so that the rental of the completed houses may be commensurate with the wages earned.

(iii) Although a start has been made on the eradication of a few unfit houses, nevertheless only the fringe of the problem has been touched. The condition of many houses in the district is viewed with the utmost gravity by the Department. The disparity between rentals and cost of repairs is having a serious effect on the necessary repair and maintenance of dwelling houses. Again it is stressed that the present position can only lead to still further deterioration in the life of the community.

4. INSPECTIONS

The number and character of inspections carried out in connection with housing is as follows :—

(a) Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year for housing defects	...	...	...	687
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations	...	...	...	75
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	21
(d) Number of houses found defective in some essential particular	...	...	...	673
(e) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice	...	...	...	692
(f) Reinspections of houses	...	...	...	3,001

(g) Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—					
(i)	Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	—
(ii)	Proceedings under Public Health Act	...			58
(iii)	Proceedings under Sections II and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	7
(iv)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	—

(h) New Houses :—

(i)	Total number erected by Local Authority during year	...	...	...	55
(ii)	Total number erected by Private Persons during year	...	...	...	14

5. COMMON LODGING HOUSES

(i) One common lodging house is registered, the accommodation available being 30 beds.

(ii) The premises are managed in a satisfactory manner.

(iii) During the year cases of illness occurred in two aged inmates of the house. It was only with the utmost difficulty and after representations to various Authorities that it was possible to secure hospital treatment for them.

SECTION IX

FACTORIES ADMINISTRATION

1. FACTORIES ACT, 1937

(i) Number of Factories on Register :—

(a) Factories (Mechanical Power) ...	...	49
(b) Factories (No Mechanical Power) ...	...	12
(c) Other Premises ...	...	1

(ii) Number of Inspections :—

(a) Factories (Mechanical Power) ...	...	76
(b) Factories (No Mechanical Power) ...	...	9
(c) Other Premises ...	...	2

(iii) Number of Written Notices :—

(a) Factories (Mechanical Power) ...	...	2
(b) Factories (No Mechanical Power) ...	...	—

(iv) Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	1
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) insufficient	1	2	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	1
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	2	1	—
Totals ...	4	4	1	2

APPENDIX I

TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

Month	Temperature		Rainfall (inches)
	Maximum	Minimum	
January	54	27	1.37
February	58	18	1.22
March	63	25	.80
April	81	30	1.50
May	73	31	1.86
June	86	40	.76
July	92	43	.42
August	86	44	.52
September	91	48	1.81
October	71	27	6.86
November	56	25	3.37
December	55	25	1.56
TOTAL RAINFALL (inches) ...			22.05

APPENDIX "A"

		lbs.
11 Cattle (excluding Cows)	Generalised Tuberculosis ...	6,190
13 Cows	Ditto	6,786
1 Cattle (excluding Cows)	Oedema	472
1 Cow	Ditto	308
1 Cow	Oedema—Fracture	416
2 Cattle (excluding Cows)	Emaciation & Tuberculosis	556
1 Cattle (excluding Cows)	Gross Emaciation	191
1 Cow	Fevered—Extensive Bruising	432
22 Portions of Cattle ...	Localised Tuberculosis ...	2,727
1 Portion of Cattle ...	Oedema	74
6 Portions of Cattle ...	Injury	174
1 Portion of Cattle ...	Abscess	16
1 Portion of Cattle ...	Abscesses, Oedema and Adhesions	20
1 Portion of Cattle ...	Injury—Abscess	6
1 Portion of Cattle ...	Fracture	64
1 Calf	Generalised Tuberculosis ...	130
1 Pig	Fevered—Peritonitis	76
1 Pig	Acute Swine Erysipelas ...	109
1 Sow	Septicæmia	374
5 Portions of Pig	Localised Tuberculosis ...	157
2 Portions of Pig	Fracture—Injury	15
4 Portions of Sow	Ditto	80
4 Sheep	Emaciation	128
4 Sheep	Oedema	263
18 Sheep	Emaciation and Oedema ...	609
1 Sheep	Fever and Oedema	57
1 Sheep	Moribund	54
1 Sheep	Oedema and Toxæmia	36
1 Sheep	Nephritis and Oedema	40
1 Sheep	Toxæmia	67
10 Portions of Sheep ...	Injury	42
2 Portions of Sheep ...	Injury—fracture	17½
2 Portions of Sheep ...	Bruising	12
1 Portion of Sheep ...	Oedema	4
1 Portion of Sheep ...	Tainted by Fly Dressing ...	8
1 Portion of Sheep ...	Decomposition	8½
1 Portion of Ram ...	Abscesses, Pleurisy and Degenerated Cysts	26
Edible Offal		29,066
Argentine Hind Qtr. — Rump & Top Side ...	Decomposed	38
New Zealand Cow Beef Trimmings	Perished	80
Top-side, Silver-side, Bed of Beef & Rump & Under-cut	Bone Taint	103
Beef Trimmings from English Hind Quarter ...	Heated	5
English Mutton	Heated	29½
English Loin of Beef ...	Internal Bruising	24¼
English Beef	Ditto	63
English Hind Qtr., Grade "B" Beef	Muscular Degeneration ...	55
Top-side & Silver-side "B" Hind Quarter ...	Internal Bruising	10¼
Udder		198½
4 Imported Dutch Chicken	Decomposition	15¼
Fresh Fish		763
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs: including canned Milk, Meat, Fruit, Vegetables, Fish, Eggs, Jams, etc.		11,280¾
	TOTAL LBS. ...	62,476½
		(56,076½)*
TOTAL — 27 Tons 17 Cwt. 3 Qrs. 8½ Lbs. (25 Tons 0 Cwt. 2 Qrs. 20½ Lbs.)*		

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

APPENDIX B

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

Inspections of Houses							Inspections
No. of houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts)							
First Inspections—not visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	687
No. of Houses reinspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3001
No. of Houses inspected and recorded (S. 5 Housing Act)							75
No. of premises (other than houses and not mentioned below)							
inspected for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
							— 3785
Premises							
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Fresh fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Fried fish and chip shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Fruit and vegetable shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Food vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Milk vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises to examine foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	179
Provision shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Public houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Restaurants and restaurant kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Shops (under Shops Act)	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Shops (Reinspections)	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	349
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Static water tanks	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Systematic inspection of district	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tents, vans and sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Water courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							— 1119
Rat Infestation							
Houses inspected (first inspections)	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Houses inspected (reinspections)	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Other premises (first inspections)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Other premises (reinspections)	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
							— 116
Enquiries or Visits							
Contractors or owners interviewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	155
Contacts of infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	368
Rent Restriction Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Office Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	2082	
Kemsley Camp	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Housing Management Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	459	
Flooding at Milton—visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	211	
Lectures	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Port Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
								3358
Food and Drugs and Other Sampling								
Samples of Milk Bottles for Bacteriological Examination	...						6	
Samples of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	
Samples of Water obtained—Bacteriological examination	...						30	
Samples of Milk obtained, bacteriological	...	...					52	
Miscellaneous Bacteriological specimens	...	...					9	
								155
Factories								
Factories with mechanical power—Bakehouses	...	...					17	
			Miscellaneous	...	...		59	
			Miscellaneous	...	...		9	
								85
						TOTAL	...	8618
								*(8025)

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

APPENDIX C

NUISANCES—NUMBER AND CHARACTER DEALT WITH

WORKS EXECUTED

Shops Act					Totals
Heating apparatus provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary Conveniences provided	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary Conveniences repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	3
					— 8
Houses					
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	6
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	148
Brickwork of walls repaired	...	...	...	...	35
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	26
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	44
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Floors renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	62
Floors ventilated	...	...	...	...	4
Food Stores provided or improved	...	...	...	...	1
Grates or Ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	40
Inside plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	65
Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	23
Outside plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Outbuildings repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Obstructive outbuildings demolished	...	...	...	...	21
Roofs renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	143
Rain water pipes or gutters renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	50
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Washing coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Water supply provided	...	...	...	...	14
Water taps or pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Window cords renewed	...	...	...	...	69
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	77
Yard paving relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	5
					— 887
Drainage					
Bath wastes trapped or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Drains tested, Smoke	...	...	...	...	46
Drains tested, Water	...	...	...	...	43
Drains re-laid	...	...	...	...	21
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	74
Gullies fixed	...	...	...	...	9
Inspection or Interception chambers provided	...	...	...	...	12
Inspection or Interception chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	5
New drains constructed	...	...	...	...	11
Rainwater pipes disconnected	...	...	...	...	2
Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	11
Sinks trapped or waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	17
					— 265
Water-Closets					
Additional W.C.'s provided	...	...	...	...	2
Flushing apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	3
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	95

Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	...	55	
New pans and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	63	
W.C.'s reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	2	
W.C.'s cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1	
						—	221
Eradication of Bed Bugs, Fleas and other Insects							
No. of Council Houses infested with bed bugs	...	...					1
Cesspools and Septic Tanks							
Abolished and house connected to sewer	...	...	...				7
Urinals							
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Flushing apparatus fixed or repaired			...	...	...	1	
Other repairs	..	...	...	...	...	1	
Re-constructed	...	...	...	...	...	1	
						—	4
Earth or Pail Closets							
Abolished	...	...	...	...	...		2
Food Shops, Kitchens, and Premises used for Preparation or Manufacture of Preserved Foods							
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Communicating W.C.'s abolished	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Other repairs	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Storage arrangements improved	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Washing-up sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	4	
						—	13
TOTAL						...	1408
							*(1229)

FOOTNOTE.—*Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.